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| APPLICATION NO. | . FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 09/979,525 | 11/21/2001 | Alan F. Savicki | 492.172 | 6341 | |
| 27023 | 7590 01/20 | 0004 | EXAMINER | | |
| THE GLAD PRODUCTS COMPANY | | | BRITTAIN | BRITTAIN, JAMES R | |
| P.O. BOX 24 OAKLAND, | 1305 CA 94623-1305 | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| , | | | 3677 | | |
| | | | DATE MAILED: 01/20/200 | A | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | Application No. | Applicant(s) | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----|--|--|--|--|
| | | | 87 | | | | |
| Offic Action Summany | 09/979,525 | SAVICKI, ALAN F. | | | | | |
| Offic Action Summary | Examiner | Art Unit | | | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication ann | James R. Brittain | 3677 | | | | | |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply | | | | | | | |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period v - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status | 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be ting within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from a cause the application to become ABANDONE | nely filed rs will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. CD (35 U.S.C. § 133). | | | | | |
| 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>17 O</u> | <u>ctober 2003</u> . | | | | | | |
| 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ This | action is non-final. | | | | | | |
| 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. | | | | | | | |
| Disposition of Claims | | | | | | | |
| 4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>68-148</u> is/are pending in the application. | | | | | | | |
| 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdray | vn from consideration. | | | | | | |
| 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. | | | | | | | |
| 6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>68-148</u> is/are rejected. | | | | | | | |
| | 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. | | | | | | |
| 8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/o | r election requirement. | | | | | | |
| Application Papers | | | | | | | |
| 9) The specification is objected to by the Examine | | | | | | | |
| 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acc | | | | | | | |
| Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct | • , , | | | | | | |
| 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex | | | | | | | |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 | | | | | | | |
| 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign | n priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a | a)-(d) or (f). | | | | | |
| a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority document 2. Certified copies of the priority document 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureau * See the attached detailed Office action for a list 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti since a specific reference was included in the firs 37 CFR 1.78. a) The translation of the foreign language profits Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domesti reference was included in the first sentence of the | s have been received in Applicate rity documents have been received (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). of the certified copies not received priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1190 st sentence of the specification application has been recognitive under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 | ed in this National Stage ed. e) (to a provisional application) r in an Application Data Sheet. ceived. d) and/or 121 since a specific | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) | | | | | | | |
| 1) M Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) | 5) 🔲 Notice of Informal F | r (PTO-413) Paper No(s) Patent Application (PTO-152) | | | | | |

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 68-86, 88-125, 127-146, and 148 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herrington Jr. et al. (US 5161286) in view of Hattori (US 3990130).

Herrington Jr. et al. (figure 7) teaches closure device comprising: a first fastening strip; a second fastening strip; a slider 32 adapted to be slidably disposed on the fastening strips and facilitating the occlusion of the fastening strips when moved towards a first end thereof and facilitating the deocclusion of the fastening strips when moved towards a second end thereof, the fastening strips and the slider having a longitudinal X axis and a transverse Y axis, the transverse Y axis being perpendicular to the longitudinal X axis, the fastening strips and the slider having a vertical Z axis, the vertical Z axis being perpendicular to the longitudinal X axis, the vertical Z axis being perpendicular to the transverse Y axis, a first end stop 31 at the first end, the slider comprising a housing having four jaws defined by the opposite downwardly extending thickened portions of the legs 21c, 22c that define a slot between them at each end of the slider and the right-hand face defining the portion of the recess or slot 32a for engaging the first end stop projection 31a when the slider is moved to the first end of the fastening strips and the first jaw thereby preventing removal of the slider from the first end of the fastening strips in the

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longitudinal X axis. The end face of the slider engages the end stop at each end of the bag so as to keep the slider on the bag. The width of the end stop is greater than the spacing of the thickened portions of the legs of the slider that are considered jaws. The difference is that the interconnection between end stop and slider occurs below the top of the fastening strips.

However, Hattori (figures 2, 6) teaches end stop structure 27 that locks a slider 11 at the end of its travel via the jaws 13, 22 extending from the slider above the fastening strips to interengage with the end stop. The device can be used upon a container if so desired. This structure helps to maintain an airtight seal, a beneficial result. As it would be advantageous to improve the seal of the fastener of Herrington, Jr. et al., it would have been obvious to modify the fastener of Herrington Jr. et al. so that the interlock between the slider and end stop is above the fastening strips as this would help improve the sealing characteristics of the fastener as taught by Hattori.

Claims 87, 126, and 147 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herrington Jr. et al. (US 5161286) in view of Hattori (US 3990130) as applied to claims 68, 107, and 128 above, and further in view of Stohlmeier et al. (US 5871281).

Further modification of the fastener of Herrington et al. so that the interengaging features are of the arrowhead type in view of Stolmeier et al. (figure 4) teaching that it is well known to utilize the arrowhead type of interengaging features 18H so as to better secure the closure.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Brittain whose telephone number is 703-308-2222. The examiner can normally be reached on M, W & F 5:30-1:30, T 5:30-2:00 & TH 5:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. J. Swann can be reached on 703-306-4115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9326.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

James R. Brittain Primary Examiner Art Unit 3677

JRB